

UB Law Forum

Volume 3
Number 1 *Winter 1988*

Article 8

1-1-1988

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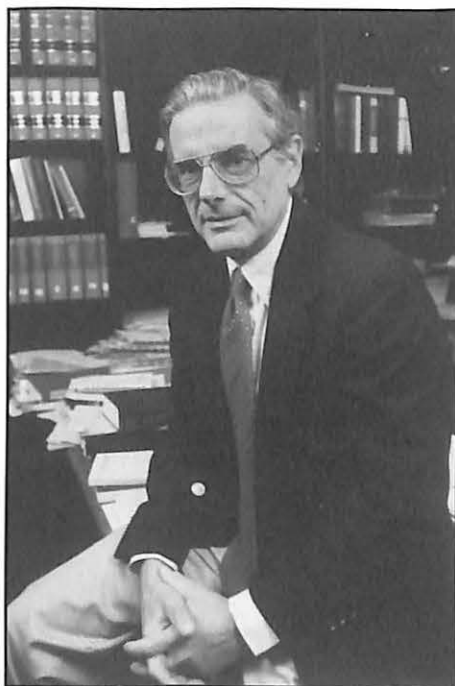
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Recommended Citation

UB Law Forum (1988) "UB Law Welcomes Dean Filvaroff," *UB Law Forum*: Vol. 3 : No. 1 , Article 8.
Available at: https://digitalcommons.law.buffalo.edu/ub_law_forum/vol3/iss1/8

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UB Law Welcomes Dean Filvaroff



David B. Filvaroff, UB Law's new dean.

When David B. Filvaroff assumed the post of dean in January, he became the University at Buffalo Law School's 15th dean – and the first one to lead the school in its second century.

"I discovered a group of people, individually and collectively, with whom I felt immense intellectual compatibility and warmth ... and with whom I felt I could pursue shared objectives.

"I feel excited and enthusiastic about working with such a superb faculty, outstanding student body and committed alumni," Filvaroff said.

He hopes to maintain "the high standards and sense of excellence at UB by furthering and increasing efforts already undertaken by faculty and my respected predecessors in the dean's office.

"It's a great opportunity. Together, I believe we have a real chance to become recognized as a state law school of the first rank."

Filvaroff, 55, took over the helm from Wade J. Newhouse, a veteran faculty

member who has worked with the new dean since last June to familiarize him with the Law School and to ensure a smooth transition.

Due to a prior commitment, Filvaroff spent the fall semester at New York Law School in New York City where he taught a seminar on civil rights and a first year course. He visited UB regularly, however, and attended alumni functions in Buffalo, Washington, D.C. and Albany. "I enjoy teaching, I enjoy students, I love the classroom," said Filvaroff. "I do want to teach as well as be an administrator, but at least initially, I will not be teaching."

Filvaroff has asked Professors Virginia A. Leary and Lee A. Alpert to join Alan S. Carrel and Ellen M. Gibson as associate deans. He said it is too soon to make many changes in the Law School. "I have a great deal more to learn about the school and about being dean," he said.

But he indicated the university's central administration has agreed to provide "a significant commitment of resources" at least for the short term. This increased funding will be used to hire additional full-time faculty and support staff; to study the needs of the Sears Law Library; and to

install a first class computer system that will serve as a model for the rest of the university.

The new dean also cited a cafeteria and an attractive student lounge for future funding at the Law School. "The students desperately need a place to eat together, relax and socialize," he said.

While much has been promised by the central administration, "It's still not enough. By no means did we run away with the university's bank. But it is a beginning," he said.

A magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School, Filvaroff comes to Buffalo with impressive credentials. He was professor of law for 15 years at the University of Texas at Austin. A recognized leader in international affairs, he served as a senior advisor and later as co-chief of the U.S. delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the 35-nation conference established to assess progress under the 1975 Helsinki Accord.

The new dean, an advocate for civil rights, has taught courses in constitutional law, federal courts, prisoner's rights, legislation, torts and international law.

Before joining the University of Texas Law School faculty in 1972, Filvaroff practiced law in Cleveland for four years. In the 1960s, he served as a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justices Felix Frankfurter and Arthur Goldberg; as general counsel to the President's Council on Equal Opportunity; and as a special assistant to the U.S. attorney general.

He also served from 1967 to 1972 as an associate professor of the law school at the University of Pennsylvania. He presented a paper at a Colloquium on Human Rights Policy and Law held at UB in 1981. He has been admitted to practice law in Texas and Ohio and before the U.S. Supreme Court.

A native of Wisconsin, Filvaroff attended the University of Wisconsin, where he received a B.S. in economics.

In announcing the appointment of our new dean, University President Steven B. Sample said, "I feel that David Filvaroff is an excellent choice to provide leadership for faculty, alumni and the Buffalo legal community."